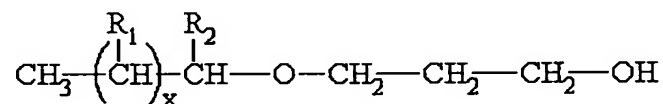


BRANCHED PRIMARY ALCOHOL COMPOSITIONS  
 AND DERIVATIVES THEREOF

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Abstract of the Invention

A detergent composition having cold water solubility and exhibiting high calcium tolerance can be produced from biodegradable branched ether derivative compositions derived from a branched ether primary alcohol represented by the formula:



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wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrocarbyl radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, x is a number ranging from 0 to 16, preferably from 3 to 13, wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the alcohol ranges from 9 to 24.